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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/844,543	04/27/2001	Lawrence Lam	PALM-3570.U.S.P	3058

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EXAMINER

CHANG, YEAN HSI

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2835

DATE MAILED: 12/02/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/844,543	LAM, LAWRENCE	
	Examiner Yean-Hsi Chang	Art Unit 2835	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 October 2003.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.      2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) Claim(s) 1,3-10,12-18 and 20-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,3-10,12-18 and 20-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.  
 a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)      4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.  
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)      5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.      6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on Oct. 22, 2003 has been entered.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 4-6 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kikinis (US 5,841,424).

Kikinis teaches a portable keyboard sled comprising:

- A receiving portion (19a, fig. 1) adapted to receive a portable computer system (37, fig. 4) (claim 1)

- An interface connector (29, fig. 2) disposed within said receiving portion (claim 1)
- A mounting mechanism (35, fig. 4) disposed within said receiving portion (claim 1)
- A keyboard portion (13, fig. 3) coupled with said interface connector and for providing input alphanumeric keys (not shown, see col. 3, lines 20-22) allowing a user to communicatively interact with said portable computing system via said portable keyboard sled while also allowing a user to communicatively interact with said portable computing system via a standard input component of the portable computing system (see col. 3, lines 42-51, and col. 5, lines 29-51) (claims 1 and 5)
- Wherein a pass channel is provided between slots (53, fig. 5; also see col. 5, lines 35-43) (claim 4)
- Wherein said keyboard portion is a split keyboard (shown in fig. 4) having a left portion (13, fig. 4) and a separately located right portion (17, fig. 4) (claim 6)
- Wherein said computer system is a palmtop computer (see col. 4, lines 10-13) (claim 9)

4. Claims 10, 12 and 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kikinis.

Kikinis teaches a portable gaming sled comprising:

- A receiving portion (19a, fig. 1) adapted to receive a portable computer system (37, fig. 4) (claim 10)
- An interface connector (29, fig. 2) disposed within said receiving portion enabling communication between said gaming sled and portable computer (claims 10 and 12)
- A mounting mechanism (35, fig. 4) disposed within said receiving portion (claim 10)
- A gaming controls portion (13, fig. 3) coupled to said interface connector for providing game control input and include joystick functionality and function control buttons (15, fig. 4; see also col. 3, lines 20-22), and allowing a user to communicatively interact with said portable computing system via said portable gaming sled while also allowing a user to communicatively interact with said portable computing system via a standard input component of the portable computing system (see col. 3, lines 42-51, and col. 5, lines 29-51) (claims 10 and 15)
- Wherein a pass channel is provided between slots (53, fig. 5; also see col. 5, lines 35-43) (claim 14)

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the

applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by SanGiovanni (US 2002/01012946 A1).

SanGiovanni teaches a portable keyboard sled comprising:

- A receiving portion (shown in fig. 3, not numbered) adapted to receive a portable computer system (102, fig. 3; also see page2, [0021]) (claim 1)
- An interface connector (106, fig. 3; also see page 3, [0025])) disposed within said receiving portion (claim 1)
- A mounting mechanism (106, fig. 3) disposed within said receiving portion (claim 1)
- A keyboard portion (110, fig. 1) coupled with said interface connector and for providing input alphanumeric keys (also see page 3, [0022]) allowing a user to communicatively interact with said portable computing system via said portable keyboard sled while also allowing a user to communicatively interact with said portable computing system via a standard input component of the portable computing system (see page 2, [0019]-[0021]) (claim 1)
- Wherein said receiving portion is configured to receive said portable computer system in a landscape (horizontal) orientation (see fig. 4) (claim 27)

7. Claims 10 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by SanGiovanni.

SanGiovanni teaches a portable gaming sled comprising:

- A receiving portion (shown in fig. 3, not numbered) adapted to receive a portable computer system (102, fig. 3; also see page 2, [0021]) (claim 10)
- An interface connector (106, fig. 3; also see page 3, [0025]) disposed within said receiving portion (claim 10)
- A mounting mechanism (106, fig. 3) disposed within said receiving portion (claim 10)
- A keyboard portion (110, fig. 1) coupled with said interface connector and for providing input alphanumeric keys (also see page 3, [0022]) allowing a user to communicatively interact with said portable computing system via said portable keyboard sled while also allowing a user to communicatively interact with said portable computing system via a standard input component of the portable computing system (see page 2, [0019]-[0021]) (claim 10)
- Wherein said receiving portion is configured to receive said portable computer system in a landscape (horizontal) orientation (see fig. 4) (claim 28)

8. Claims 18, 21-22, 24 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by SanGiovanni.

SanGiovanni teaches a system comprising:

- A portable computer system (104, fig. 3) having a display orientation controller (400, fig. 4A) (claims 18 and 29)
- A portable sled (102, fig. 4) comprising:

- A receiving portion (shown in fig. 3, not numbered) adapted to receive said portable computer system (claim 18)
- An interface connector (106, fig. 3; also see page 3, [0025]) disposed within said receiving portion to provide a communication link between said sled and said portable computer when installed (claim 18)
- A mounting mechanism (35, fig. 4) disposed within said receiving portion for securing said portable computer system (claim 18)
- A keyboard portion (110, fig. 1) coupled to said interface connector and for providing input alphanumeric keys (see page 3, [0022]) allowing a user to communicatively interact with said portable computer system via said portable keyboard sled while also allowing a user to communicatively interact with said portable computing system via a standard input component of the portable computing system (see page 2, [0019]-[0021]) (claims 18 and 21-22)
- A gaming control portion (see page 3, [0022]) (claim 24)

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 3 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kikinis in view of Helot et al. (US 6,185,095 B1).

Kikinis discloses the claimed invention except clearly specifying the mounting mechanism being insertable in a mounting hook receiving slot of a portable computer system.

Helot et al. teaches a mounting mechanism (36, fig. 1) of a computer receiving portion (32, fig. 1), being insertable in a mounting hook receiving slot of a portable computer (see col. 3, lines 58-62).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Kikinis with the mounting mechanism taught by Helot et al. for providing secure retention of a portable computer system.

11. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over SanGiovanni in view of Helot et al.

SanGiovanni discloses the claimed invention except clearly specifying the mounting mechanism being insertable in a mounting hook receiving slot of a portable computer system.

Helot et al. teaches a mounting mechanism (36, fig. 1) of a computer receiving portion (32, fig. 1), being insertable in a mounting hook receiving slot of a portable computer (see col. 3, lines 58-62).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Kikinis with the mounting mechanism taught by Helot et al. for providing secure retention of a portable computer system.

12. Claims 7-8 and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kikinis in view of Madsen et al. (US 6,181,284 B1).

Kikinis discloses the claimed invention except a wireless modem.

Madsen teaches a keyboard sled (26, fig. 1) comprising an antenna system (12, fig. 1) being configured to be in communication with a wireless communication network which may include wireless modem and Bluetooth technology (see col. 7, lines 21-30).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Kikinis with the antenna system taught by Madsen such that the sled may be able to communicate with a wireless network.

13. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over SanGiovanni in view of Kikinis.

SanGiovanni discloses the claimed invention except a split keyboard portion.

Kikinis teaches a keyboard portion (11, fig. 1) being a split keyboard comprising a left side portion (13, fig. 1) and a separately located right side portion (17, fig. 1), said two portions comprising a complement of input keys.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of SanGiovanni with the keyboard portions taught by Kikinis for the purpose of having a complete key set.

14. Claims 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over SanGiovanni in view of Helot et al.

SanGiovanni discloses the claimed invention except a wireless modem.

Madsen teaches a keyboard sled (26, fig. 1) comprising an antenna system (12, fig. 1) being configured to be in communication with a wireless communication network which may include wireless modem and Bluetooth technology (see col. 7, lines 21-30).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of SanGiovanni with the antenna system taught by Madsen such that the sled may be able to communicate with a wireless network.

### ***Response to Arguments***

15. Applicant's arguments filed Oct. 22, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues references SanGiovanni and Kikinis taken alone or in combination fails to teach or render obvious the claimed limitations of "said keyboard portion allowing a user to communicatively interact with said portable computing system

via said portable keyboard sled while also allowing a user to communicatively interact with said portable computing system via a standard input component of the portable computing system."

An interactive communication is an inherent function of a keyboard and a display in a computer system; and both of them are comprised in the computer system of the references. This answers the applicant's arguments.

***Correspondence***

16. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yean-Hsi Chang whose telephone number is (703) 306-5798. The examiner can normally be reached on 07:30-16:00.

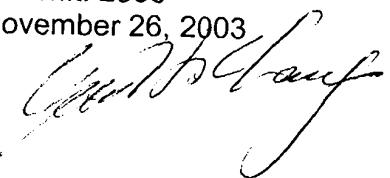
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren Schuberg can be reached on (703) 308-4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-3431 for regular communications and for After Final communications. There are RightFAX numbers and provide the fax sender with an auto-reply fax verifying receipt by the USPTO: Before-Final (703-872-9318) and After-Final (703-872-9319).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-8558.

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Yean-Hsi Chang  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit: 2835  
November 26, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yean-Hsi Chang".